

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 21, 24, 27, 37, 43 and 51 and leaves claims 23, 26, 29-32, 34-36, 38, 39, 41, 42, 44-50 and 52-55 unchanged. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29-32, 34-39 and 41-55.

Applicants' Attorney, the undersigned and Applicants' Japanese Representative Hiroshi Kawano wish to thank Examiner Patel for the courtesy extended during the interview of December 6, 2005. During such interview, proposed amendments were presented in order to clarify the features of the present invention relative to the references of record particularly Hashemi (U.S. Patent No. 5,337,414), Nakamura (U.S. Patent No. 5,388,013), Aida (JP No. 63-147247) and Cheney (U.S. Patent No. 5,285,456). It is particularly noted that in the Office Action and as discussed during the interview, the Examiner relies upon an alleged teaching in Aida of a format converter that converts data from one format into another and transfers the converted data to cache.

During the interview, a copy of a translation of Aida was presented and discussions thereof were conducted. It was noted during the interview that Aida is not directed to a storage system but is in fact directed to a data format converting apparatus connected between two separate information processing apparatuses. As taught in Aida, the data format converter performs conversions such as coordinate transformation related to image processing between the two separate information processing apparatus. Thus, as discussed during the interview, Aida simply teaches as in Fig. 1

thereof that a first information processing apparatus 4 generates from the MPU 1 thereof coordinate data which is output to the data format converter apparatus 5 which converts the format of the data output by the MPU 1 into data of another format which is supplied to the second information processing apparatus 8. It is assumed by the Examiner that the converted data output from the data format converter 5 is stored in the cache of the second information processing apparatus 8 even though no explicit discussion thereof can be found in the English language translation.

During the interview, it was agreed that the apparatus taught in Fig. 1 of Aida is simply a converter provided between two separate information processing apparatuses not a converter provided in a host adaptor 1 as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the present application. The host adaptor according to the present invention being included within the storage system has a format converter which converts CKD data received from a host device into FBA data. The apparatus illustrated in Fig. 1 of Aida is not a host adaptor included within a storage system for receiving CKD data from a host device as in the present invention.

In order to clarify these features of the present invention amendments were made to the claims so as to more clearly recite the features of the host adaptor. As per the present invention as illustrated, for example, in Figs. 1 and 2 of the present application the host adaptor, when coupled to a host device, receives the CKD data from the host device and converts the CKD data by way of the format converter into FBA data. The apparatus illustrated in Fig. 1 of Aida particularly with regard to the information processing

apparatus 4 is not a host adaptor and as such is not connected to a host device from which it receives CKD data as recited in the claims.

Therefore, as agreed during the interview if the Proposed Amendment is filed officially then it will overcome the Aida reference.

The present Amendment incorporates the proposed amendments presented during the interview, particularly with regard to a host adaptor being coupled to a host device for receipt of the CKD data. Each of the independent claims was amended in the same manner.


Thus, the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record particularly Hashemi, Nakamura, Aida or Cheney whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §103(a) rejections of the claims as being unpatentable over Hashemi taken in combination with one or more of Nakamura, Aida and Cheney is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29-32, 34-39 and 41-55 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29-32, 34-39 and 41-55 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417(500.33021CX5).

Respectfully submitted,

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